

Spring Issue

March 2009

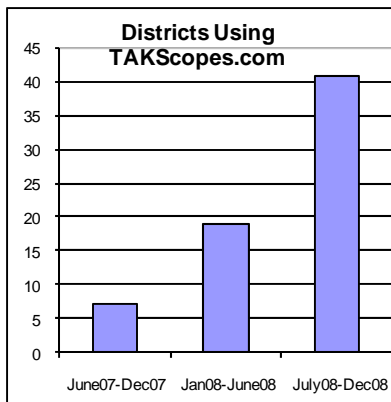


RICE UNIVERSITY
SCHOOL SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY PROGRAM

TAKScopes.com User News

TAKScopes.com Users Increase Across the state of Texas

TAKScopes.com celebrates its second year of providing a comprehensive, K-5 science curriculum resource for elementary teachers across the state of Texas. TAKScopes.com users continue to increase each month. Over 74 districts in Texas are using TAKScopes.com for their classroom teachers. Between the period of June 2007 and December 2008 TAKScopes.com users quadrupled (see chart).



As the number of districts using TAKScopes.com has grown, the number of elementary campuses using TAKScopes.com has tripled. We now have over 14,000 individual teacher users.

TAKScopes.com teachers are making a positive difference in science achievement for Texas children!

Added Features Support Teachers in the Elementary Science Classroom

We at TAKScopes.com continue to improve our K-5 science curriculum resource. Since our last newsletter, several enhancements have been added with both student achievement and teacher instruction in mind.

Spanish translations of student material for grades K-2 have been completed and are being added to the website. When a Spanish translation is available, users will see a small orange button announcing the student material is available in Spanish. Simply click on the "en Español" button to access a translated student document. Our translations are another support tool for teachers to use when targeting student understanding in elementary science.

Web Quests for grades 3-5 have been completed and are located by clicking the Internet Resources button for each scope. K-2 web quests are nearly complete.

Web Quests offer teachers a set of frequently updated Internet resources relating directly to the TEKS content



information of each scope. Many of our TAKScopes.com users report using Web Quests with their students as centers activities, as websites for independent research, and as class instructional review of scope concepts. Our teacher users tell us they like the fact that we regularly update these web resources.



New 3rd Grade
Life Science Scopes are Online
3.5AB
Systems, Structures & Processes:
Plants and Animals

3.9AB
Adaptation

**Science Reading Passages
and
TAKS Focused Assessments**

will soon be downloadable in
PDF format in our "green" effort to help
teachers and campuses
paper conservation efforts!

FOCUSING IN SERIES: Dive into the Lesson Presentation

LESSON
OUTLINE

LESSON
PRESENTATION

TEACHER
BACKGROUND

INTERNET
RESOURCES

INTERVENTION

MATERIALS
LIST

In each and every scope you will find a **LESSON PRESENTATION**. This flash PowerPoint slideshow provides a pictorial overview describing each part of the 5 E lesson. The format for each lesson presentation is standard across every scope. Once you have viewed and read a lesson presentation, you have a working knowledge of how each lesson will set up for every scope.

The **LESSON PRESENTATION** can be used individually by the teacher as a pre-lesson preparation piece or in a whole-class manner by projecting the slideshow for the class to view as the lesson progresses.

Every **LESSON PRESENTATION** begins with a focus question or statement. The focus question ties directly to the TEK addressed by the lesson scope. Each focus question is framed as an

open-ended device designed to cultivate on-topic student discussion.

The **LESSON PRESENTATION** provides a visual cue for the teacher to progress through the 5E lesson cycle addressing the focused TEK content.

Visually appealing graphics along with "Engaging" questions set the stage for an inquiry-based student "Exploration" of content construction. Question prompts support a focused, purposeful dialogue of "Explanation" between the teacher and students. A graphical review of picture vocabulary provides more details of the lesson's TEK terminology. Students are asked to "Elaborate" on their understanding of science content in conceptual ways.

Using the **LESSON PRESENTATION** tool provided by TAKScopes.com, teachers will find a visual overview guide, a pacing tool for each and every lesson, and an invaluable tool for lesson summarization or lesson review.

Our Next FOCUSING IN SERIES Topic:

TEACHER BACKGROUND

Online TAKScopes.com Preview Tour Schedule

March 25	1:00-2:00 pm
April 1	3:00-4:00 pm
April 8	1:00-2:00 pm

Tour RSVP at TAKScopes@rice.edu

Your Feedback is Important

As always,
we enjoy and
appreciate your feedback.

Email us at TAKScopes@rice.edu

Did You Know???

Creating Student Accounts is Quick and Easy!

All student accounts are created under the teacher account name.

Once logged in, the teacher should click on [Profile](#) located in the upper right hand corner of the TAKScopes.com website. Once Profile is opened, the teacher should click on the Edit Student Account link to begin setting up student accounts.

Student account

[< Back to profile](#)

Your user account also comes with a special login for your students. Student logins have restricted access to only those scope elements designed for students. A default student account was created for you when your account was created, but you may edit the login values here.

NOTE: If you modify your student account, please test the student account by logging out and logging back in using the information provided.

Login (username)

stmparker1

Password

Confirm password

SAVE

The Edit Student Account link will allow a teacher to setup the student user name and a unique password for her students to use as part of their login information (see left).

Students wishing to login should go to the main splash page of

www.TAKScopes.com. By clicking on the [Login](#) link and entering the teacher assigned username and password, students will access TAKScopes.com.

Every student who logs in can access all of the student materials associated with

each scope (see right).

Because TAKScopes.com is an online resource, using it is as easy as accessing the Internet. Get started creating your student accounts today!

Scope: Electricity (5.8C)

[< Scope: Electricity](#) [< Topic: Physical science](#) [< Grade: 5th](#)

INTERNET
RESOURCES

PICTURE
VOCABULARY

SCIENCE
READING
PASSAGES

TAKS FOCUSED
ASSESSMENT

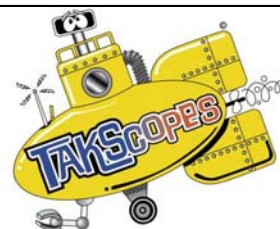
INTERACTIVE
REVIEW GAME

Objective

Demonstrate that electricity can flow in a circuit and can produce heat, light, sound, and magnetic effects

Come See a TAKScopes.com Presentation at the Following Conferences

TEPSA Summer Conference	Austin, Tx	June 10-12 2009
TASA/TASB Conference	Houston, Tx	October 1-3 2009
Texas ASCD Conference	Frisco, Tx	October 25-27 009
CAST Science Conference	Galveston, Tx	November 5-7 2009



Dive ... into Science!

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